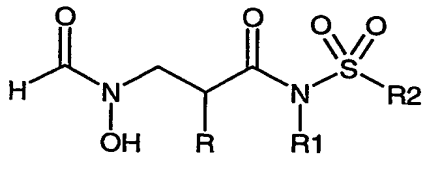
What is claimed is:

1. A compound according to formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

R is selected from the group consisting of:

C_{2-6} alkyl (optionally substituted by alkoxy, halogen, or C_{1-3} alkylsulfanyl); C_{2-6} alkenyl (optionally substituted by alkoxy, halogen, or C_{1-3} alkylsulfanyl); C_{2-6} alkynyl (optionally substituted by alkoxy, halogen, or C_{1-3} alkylsulfanyl); $(CH_2)_n$—C_{3-6} carbocycle (optionally substituted by alkoxy, halogen, or C_{1-3} alkylsulfanyl); and $(CH_2)_n$—R4, wherein R4 is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, furan, benzofuran, thiophene, benzothiophene, tetrahydrofuran, tetrahydropyran, dioxane, 1,4-benzodioxane or benzo[1,3]dioxole; R4 is optionally substituted by one or more substituent selected from Cl, Br, I, C_{1-3} alkyl (optionally substituted by one to three F) and C_{1-2} alkoxy (optionally substituted by one to three F);

R1 represents hydrogen or C_{1-4} alkyl;

R2 represents C_{1-6} alkyl, ArC_{1-4} alkyl, wherein substitution is through the alkyl carbon, or Ar;

Ar is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, naphthyl, furyl, pyridyl, thienyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyrazolyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, imidazolyl, imidazolidinyl, benzofuranyl, indolyl, thiazolidinyl, isoxazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, morpholinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl, pyrrolyl, and pyrimidyl; all of which may be unsubstituted or substituted by one or more Z_1 or Z_2 groups;

Z_1 and Z_2 are, independently, selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-4} alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, $(CH_2)_nCO_2R1$, C(O)NRR1, CN, $(CH_2)_nOH$, NO_2, halogen, NR_2, and NHC(O)R2; and

n is an integer from 0 to 4.

2. A compound according to claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:

N-{2-[(Formylhydroxyamino)methyl]heptanoyl}benzenesulfonamide.

4-Chloro-N-{2-[(formylhydroxyamino)methyl]heptanoyl} benzenesulfonamide.

4-tert-Butyl-N-{2-[(formylhydroxyamino)methyl]heptanoyl} benzenesulfonamide.

N-{2-[(Formylhydroxyamino)methyl]heptanoyl}methanesulfonamide.

Butane-1-sulfonic acid {2-[(formylhydroxyamino)methyl]heptanoyl}amide.

Propane-2-sulfonic acid {2-[(formylhydroxyamino)methyl]-heptanoyl} amide.

4-{2-[(Formylhydroxyamino)methyl]heptanoylsulfamoyl}benzoic acid methyl ester.

4-Chloro-N-{2-[(formylhydroxyamino)methyl]-3-phenyl-propanoyl} benzenesulfonamide.

N-{2-[(Formylhydroxyamino)methyl]-3-phenyl-propanoyl} benzenesulfonamide.

5-Methyl-pyridine-2-sulfonic acid {2-[(formylhydroxyamino)methyl] heptanoyl} amide.

N-{2-[(Formylhydroxyamino)methyl]-4-phenyl-butanoyl} benzenesulfonamide.

Butane-1-sulfonic acid {2-[(formylhydroxyamino)methyl]-4-phenyl-butanoyl}amide.

Propane-2-sulfonic acid {2-[(formylhydroxyamino)methyl]-3-phenyl-propanoyl} amide.

Biphenyl-4-sulfonic acid {2-[(formyl-hydroxy-amino)-methyl]-heptanoyl}-amide.

5-Dimethylamino-naphthalene-1-sulfonic acid {2-[(formylhydroxyamino) methyl] heptanoyl}amide.

4-{2-[(Formylhydroxyamino)methyl]heptanoylsulfamoyl}benzoic acid propyl ester.

Naphthalene-1-sulfonic acid {2-[(formylhydroxyamino)methyl] heptanoyl}amide.

N-{2-[(Formylhydroxyamino)methyl]-5-methylhexanoyl} benzenesulfonamide.

5-Methyl-pyridine-2-sulfonic acid {2-[(formylhydroxyamino)methyl]-5-methyl-hexanoyl}amide.

4-Dimethylamino-N-{2-[(formylhydroxyamino)methyl]-5-methyl-hexanoyl} benzenesulfonamide.

N-[2-(2,6-Dichloro-benzyl)-3-(formylhydroxyamino)propanoyl] benzenesulfonamide.

Dimethylamino-N-{2-[(formylhydroxyamino)methyl]heptanoyl} benzenesulfonamide.

5-Methyl-pyridine-2-sulfonic acid [2-(2,6-dichlorobenzyl)-3-(formylhydroxyamino) propanoyl]amide.

5-Dimethylamino-naphthalene-1-sulfonic acid [2-(2,6-dichlorobenzyl)-3-(formylhydroxyamino)propanoyl]amide.

N-{2-[(Formylhydroxyamino)methyl]heptanoyl}-4-methyl-benzenesulfonamide.

N-{2-[(Formylhydroxyamino)methyl]heptanoyl}-4-phenoxy-benzenesulfonamide.

N-{2-[(Formylhydroxyamino)methyl]heptanoyl}-4-methoxy-benzenesulfonamide.

5-Methyl-pyridine-2-sulfonic acid {3-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-2-[(formylhydroxyamino) methyl]propanoyl}amide.

N-{2-[(Formylhydroxyamino)methyl]hexanoyl}benzenesulfonamide.

5-Dimethylamino-naphthalene-1-sulfonic acid {2-[(formylhydroxyamino) methyl] hexanoyl}amide.

N-{2-[(Formylhydroxyamino)methyl]hexanoyl}-4-phenoxy-benzenesulfonamide.

5-Dimethylamino-naphthalene-1-sulfonic acid {2-[(formylhydroxyamino) methyl]-3-methyl-butanoyl}amide.

5-Dimethylamino-naphthalene-1-sulfonic acid {(R)-2-[(formylhydroxyamino)methyl] heptanoyl} amide.

5-Dimethylamino-naphthalene-1-sulfonic acid {2-[(formylhydroxyamino) methyl]pentanoyl} amide.

Biphenyl-4-sulfonic acid {2-[(formylhydroxyamino)methyl]pentanoyl} amide.

Biphenyl-4-sulfonic acid {2-[(formylhydroxyamino)-methyl]-4-methyl-pentanoyl} amide.

5-Dimethylamino-naphthalene-1-sulfonic acid {2-[(formylhydroxyamino) methyl]-4-methyl-pentanoyl}amide.

3. A method of treating a bacterial infection by administering to a subject in need of treatment a compound according to claim 1.